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**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A probe cover comprising:

a tubular body extending from a proximal end to a distal end, the proximal end defining an opening configured for receipt of a distal end of a thermometer, and

5 the distal end of the tubular body being substantially enclosed by a film, the distal end including a plurality of non-continuous end ribs ~~at least one end rib~~ disposed in circumferentially spaced relation about an inner circumferential surface ~~of the tubular body circumference thereof~~, the ribs being ~~at least one end rib~~ configured to engage the distal end of the thermometer such that the distal end of  
10 the thermometer is spaced apart from the film.

2. (Original) A probe cover as recited in claim 1, wherein an outer circumference of the distal end of the body has an arcuate surface.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) A probe cover as recited in claim 1, wherein the  
15 end ribs includes a transverse portion disposed along a surface of the film.

5. (Currently Amended) A probe cover as recited in claim 1, wherein the end ribs includes a longitudinal portion extending along the body.

6. (Currently Amended) A probe cover as recited in claim 1, wherein the end ribs includes a longitudinal portion extending proximally along the body and a  
20 transverse portion projecting along a surface of the film such that the longitudinal portion and the transverse portion cooperate to receive the distal end of the thermometer.

7. (Original) A probe cover as recited in claim 1, wherein the body defines at least one longitudinal rib projecting from an inner surface thereof and being proximally spaced from the distal end of the body.

8. (Original) A probe cover as recited in claim 1, wherein the body defines a plurality of longitudinal ribs projecting from an inner circumferential surface thereof, the longitudinal ribs being proximally spaced from the distal end of the body.

9. (Original) A probe cover as recited in claim 8, wherein the longitudinal ribs are configured to facilitate nesting of a second probe cover.

10. (Original) A probe cover as recited in claim 1, wherein the body defines at least one protuberance projecting from an inner surface thereof, the least one protuberance being proximally spaced from the distal end of the body.

11. (Original) A probe cover as recited in claim 1, wherein the body defines a plurality of protuberances projecting from an inner circumferential surface thereof, the plurality of protuberances being proximally spaced from the distal end of the body.

12. (Original) A probe cover as recited in claim 11, wherein the protuberances are configured to facilitate nesting of a second probe cover.

13. (Original) A probe cover as recited in claim 1, wherein the body defines at least one protuberance projecting from an outer surface thereof, the at least one protuberance being proximally spaced from the distal end of the body.

14. (Original) A probe cover as recited in claim 1, wherein the body defines a plurality of protuberances projecting from an outer circumferential surface thereof,

the plurality of protuberances being proximally spaced from the distal end of the body.

15. (Original) A probe cover as recited in claim 14, wherein the protuberances are configured to facilitate nesting of a second probe cover.

5 16. (Original) A probe cover as recited in claim 15, wherein the body defines a plurality of protuberances projecting from an inner surface thereof and being proximally spaced from the distal end of the body, the protuberances being configured to facilitate nesting with a third probe cover.

10 17. (Original) A probe cover as recited in claim 1, wherein the body extends in a tapered configuration from the proximal end to the distal end.

18. (Currently Amended) A probe cover comprising:

a tubular body portion extending in a tapered configuration from a proximal end to a distal end, the proximal end defining an opening configured for receipt of a distal end of a tympanic thermometer, and

15 the distal end being substantially enclosed by a film and including a plurality of non-continuous end ribs being circumferentially spaced apart and disposed about an inner circumferential surface circumference thereof,

20 the end ribs having a longitudinal portion extending proximally along the body portion and a transverse portion projecting along a transverse surface of the film, the longitudinal portion and the transverse portion being configured to receivably engage the distal end of the tympanic thermometer for support therein such that the distal end of the tympanic thermometer is spaced apart from the film.

19. (Cancelled) ~~A probe cover comprising:~~

~~a tubular body portion extending in a tapered configuration from a proximal end to a distal end, the proximal end defining an opening configured for receipt of a tympanic thermometer, and~~

5     ~~the body portion defining a plurality of protuberances projecting from an inner surface and an outer surface of the body portion, the protuberances being proximally spaced from the distal end and disposed circumferentially in a spaced relation about a wall of the body portion, the protuberances disposed on the outer surface being configured to facilitate nesting of a second probe cover and the~~  
10     ~~protuberances disposed on the inner surface being configured to facilitate nesting with a third probe cover.~~

## 20. (Cancelled).